

GLOSSARY

A

Refers to standards for various classes of land as designated by the Clean Air Act of 1978.

advisory council

A citizen group appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to advise on matters relating to the trail, including standards for the erection and maintenance of markers along the trail, and the administration of the trail.

AIRFA

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act.

air quality

Refers to standards for various classes of land as designated by the Clean Air Act of 1978.

all-terrain vehicle

A wheeled or tracked vehicle, other than a snowmobile or work vehicle, designed primarily for recreational use, or for the transportation of property or equipment exclusively on undeveloped road rights-of-way, marshland, open country, or other unprepared surfaces.

allotment

An area of land where one or more livestock operators graze their livestock. Allotments generally consist of BLM lands, but may also include other federally managed, state owned, and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and periods of use are specified for each allotment.

amendment

The process for considering or making changes in the terms, conditions, and decisions of approved Resource Management Plans or Management Framework Plans using the prescribed provisions for resource management planning appropriate to the proposed action or circumstances. Usually only one or two

issues are considered that involve only a portion of the planning area.

adaptive management

The continuous process of modifying management actions based on the results of inventory and monitoring.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)

Areas within public lands in which special management attention is required to (1) protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes; or to (2) protect life and safety from natural hazards.

arid region

A region in which precipitation is insufficient to support any but drought-adapted vegetation.

arroyo

A term applied in the arid and semiarid regions of the southwestern United States to the small, deep, flat-floored channel or gully of an ephemeral stream or of an intermittent stream, usually with vertical or steeply cut banks of unconsolidated material at least 2 feet high; it is usually dry, but may be transformed into a temporary watercourse or short-lived torrent after heavy rainfall.

authorized officer

The federal employee who has the delegated authority to make a specific decision.

auto-tour route

A designated route of all-weather highways that closely parallels the historic trail route.

backcountry byways:

Vehicle routes that traverse scenic corridors utilizing secondary or backcountry road systems. National backcountry byways are designated by the type of road and vehicle needed to travel the byway.

best management practices

A suite of techniques that guide, or may be applied to, management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. Best management practices are often developed in conjunction with land use plans, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the land use plan specifies that they are mandatory. They may be updated or modified without a plan amendment if they are not mandatory.

biodiversity

The diversity of living organisms considered at all levels of organization including genetics, species, and higher taxonomic levels, and the variety of habitats and ecosystems, as well as the processes occurring therein.

biological assessment

The gathering and evaluation of information on proposed endangered and threatened species and critical habitat and proposed critical habitat. Required when a management action potentially conflicts with endangered or threatened species, the biological assessment is the way in which federal agencies enter into formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and describe a proposed action and the consequences to the species the action would effect.

BLM

Bureau of Land Management.

candidate species

Any species included in the Federal Register notice of review that are being considered for listing as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

certification

A high- potential historic site or segment that is in private ownership and has an agreement with the trail administration to preserve the

site or segment and to provide for some public access. Certified sites and segments are eligible for technical assistance and cost- sharing funds.

CEQ

Council on Environmental Quality.

closed

Generally denotes that an area is not available for a particular use or uses; refer to specific definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs.

closed area or trail

Designated areas and trails where the use of off- road vehicles is permanently or temporarily prohibited. The use of off- road vehicles in closed areas may be allowed only with the approval of the authorized officer.

closed road

A road or segment that is restricted from certain types of use during certain seasons of the year. The prohibited use and the time period of closure is specified.

CMP/EIS

Comprehensive Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement.

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

The official, legal tabulation of regulations directing federal government activities.

collaboration

A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands. This may or may not involve an agency as a cooperating agency.

collaborative partnerships

Refers to people working together, sharing knowledge and resources, to achieve desired outcomes for public lands and communities within statutory and regulatory frameworks.

CMP

Comprehensive Management Plan.

conformance

That a proposed action shall be specifically provided for in the land use plan or, if not specifically mentioned, shall be clearly consistent with the goals, objectives, or standards of the approved land use plan.

consistency

The proposed land use plan does not conflict with officially approved plans, programs, and policies of North American Indian tribes, other federal agencies, and state, and local governments to the extent practical within federal law, regulation, and policy.

cooperating agency

Assists the lead federal agency in developing an Environmental Analysis or Environmental Impact Statement. The Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA. Any North American Indian tribe or federal, state, or local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)

An advisory council to the President of the United States established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the President on environmental matters.

cultural resources

Nonrenewable elements of the physical and human environment, including archeological remains (evidence of prehistoric or historic human activities) and sociocultural values traditionally held by ethnic groups (sacred places, traditionally utilized raw materials, etc.).

cultural site

Any location that includes prehistoric and/or historic evidence of human use, or that has important sociocultural value.

cumulative impact

The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

designated roads and trails

Specific roads and trails where some type of motorized vehicle use is allowed either seasonally or all year long.

desired condition

Description of those factors that should exist within ecosystems, both to maintain their survival and to meet social and economic needs.

diversity

The relative abundance of wildlife species, plant species, communities, habitats, or habitat features per unit of area.

easement

A right afforded a person or agency to make limited use of another's real property for access or other purposes.

Economic Study Area (ESA)

The area described in this planning effort comprising eight counties in New Mexico, one in Texas, and the State of Chihuahua, which forms the basis for the socioeconomic profile.

ecosystem

A complete, interacting system of living organisms and the land and water that make up their environment; the home places of all living things, including humans.

Environmental Assessment (EA)

A concise public document that analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed federal action and provides sufficient evidence to determine the level of significance of the impacts.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

A detailed written statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act when an agency proposes a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

erosion

The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, or other geological agents.

FHWA

Federal Highway Administration.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA)

Public Law 94- 579, of October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM's Organic Act, which provides the majority of the BLM's legislated authority, direction, policy, and basic management guidance.

Federal Protection Component

Those components on federally owned lands that meet national historic trail criteria.

Federal Register

A daily publication that reports Presidential and federal agency documents.

forage

All browse and herbaceous foods available to grazing animals that may be grazed or harvested for feeding.

Geographic Information System (GIS)

A computer system capable of storing, analyzing, and displaying data and describing places on the earth's surface.

goal

A broad statement of a desired outcome. Goals are usually not quantifiable and may not have established time frames for achievement.

groundwater

Water contained in pore spaces of consolidated and unconsolidated surface material.

habitat

A specific set of physical conditions that surround a species, group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major constituents of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

high-potential route segment

Those segments of a trail which would afford high quality recreation experience in a portion of the route having greater than average scenic values or affording an opportunity to vicariously share the experience of the original users of a historic route.

high-potential historic site

Those historic sites related to the route, or sites in close proximity thereto, which provide opportunities to interpret the historical significance of the trail during the period of its major use. Criteria for consideration as high-potential historic sites include historic significance, presence of visible historic remnants, scenic quality, and relative freedom from intrusion.

IBWC

International Boundary and Water Commission.

impact

A modification of the existing environment caused by an action (such as construction or operation of facilities).

impacts (or effects)

Environmental consequences (the scientific and analytical basis for comparison of alternatives) as a result of a proposed action. Effects may be either direct, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place, or indirect, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance but still reasonably foreseeable, or cumulative.

implementation decisions

Decisions that take action to implement land use plan decisions. They can generally be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

implementation plan

A site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. An implementation plan usually selects and applies best management practices to meet land use plan objectives. Implementation plans are synonymous with activity plans. Examples of implementation plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, and allotment management plans.

INAH

Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia. An Agency of the Nation of Mexico which is roughly equal to the National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management.

Indian tribe (North American Indian)

Any Indian group in the conterminous United States that the Secretary of the Interior recognizes as possessing tribal status.

indirect impacts

Secondary effects that occur in locations other than the initial action or later in time.

infrastructure:

The facilities, services, and equipment needed for a community to function, including roads, sewers, water lines, police and fire protection, and schools.

interdisciplinary team

A group of individuals with different training, representing the physical sciences, social sci-

ences, and environmental design arts, assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The members of the team proceed to a solution with frequent interaction so that each discipline may provide insights to any stage of the problem and disciplines may combine to provide new solutions. The number and disciplines of the members preparing the plan vary with circumstances. A member may represent one or more discipline.

Interior Board of Land Appeals

The board of the Department of the Interior Office of Hearings and Appeals that acts for the Secretary of the Interior in responding to appeals of decisions on the use and disposition of public lands and resources. Because the Interior Board of Land Appeals acts for and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, its decisions usually represent the department's final decision but are subject to the courts.

land use allocation

The identification in a land use plan of the activities and foreseeable development that are allowed, restricted, or excluded for all or part of the planning area, based on desired future conditions.

land use plan

A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of FLPMA; an assimilation of land-use-plan-level decisions developed through the planning process, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed.

land use plan decision

Establishes desired outcomes and actions needed to achieve them. Decisions are reached using the BLM planning process. When they are presented to the public as proposed decisions, they can be protested to the BLM Director. They cannot be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

land use planning base

The entire body of land use plan decisions resulting from Resource Management Plans, Management Framework Plans, planning analyses, the adoption of other agency plans, or any other type of plan in which land- use- plan- level decisions are reached.

leasable minerals

Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. They include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulfur, potassium, and sodium minerals, and oil, gas, and geothermal.

lease

(1) A legal document that conveys to an operator the right to drill for oil and gas; and (2) the tract of land on which a lease has been obtained, where producing wells and production equipment are located.

limited areas or trails

Designated areas or trails where the use of off-road vehicles is subject to restrictions, such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions), limiting use to existing roads and trails, or limiting use to designated roads and trails. Under the designated roads and trails designation, use would be allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for use. Combinations of restrictions are possible, such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year.

locatable minerals

Minerals subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. This includes deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals not subject to lease or sale.

LWCF

Land and Water Conservation Fund.

management opportunities

A component of the analysis of the management situation; actions or management direc-

tions that could be taken to resolve issues or management concerns.

mineral

Any solid or fluid inorganic substance that can be extracted from the earth for profit.

mineral materials

Materials such as common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, and clay that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws but that can be acquired under the Mineral Materials Act of 1947, as amended.

mineral rights

Mineral rights outstanding are third- party rights- an interest in minerals not owned by the person or party conveying the land to the United States. It is an exception in a deed that is the result of prior conveyance separating title of certain minerals from the surface estate.

mineral withdrawal

A formal order that withholds federal lands and minerals from entry under the Mining Law of 1872 and closes the area to mineral location (staking mining claims) and development.

mining claim

A parcel of land that a miner takes and holds for mining purposes, having acquired the right of possession by complying with the Mining Law and local laws and rules. A single mining claim may contain as many adjoining locations as the locator may make or buy. There are four categories of mining claims: lode, placer, mill site, and tunnel site.

mitigation measures

Methods or procedures that reduce or lessen the impacts of an action.

monitoring

The periodic observation and orderly collection of data on (1) changing conditions of public land related to management actions; and (2) the effects of implementing decisions.

monitoring

The process of tracking the implementation of land use plan decisions.

multijurisdictional planning

Collaborative planning in which the purpose is to address land use planning issues for an area, such as an entire watershed or other landscape unit, in which there is a mix of public and/or private landownerships and adjoining or overlapping tribal, state, local government, or other federal agency authorities.

multiple use

The management of public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people. Making the most judicious use of the lands for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions. The use of some lands for less than all of the resources. A combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historical values. And harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the lands and the quality of the environment, with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or greatest unit output.

multiplier

The number of times new investment spending will be re-spent to produce a certain amount of new income.

NAGPRA

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

NASA

National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

NEA**National Endowment for the Arts.**

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA): An act that encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between humans and their environment and promotes efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment; enriches the understanding or the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation; and establishes the Council on Environmental Quality.

National Historic Landmark (NHL)

The National Historic Landmark program identifies, designates, and protects buildings, structures, sites, and objects of national significance. These properties commemorate and illustrate the history and culture of the United States.

NHT

National Historic Trail. National historic trails, are extended trails which follow as closely as possible and practicable the original trails or routes of travel of national historic significance. Designation of such trails or routes shall be continuous, but the established or developed trail, and the acquisition thereof, need not be continuous onsite. National historic trails shall have as their purpose the identification and protection of the historic route and its historic remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment. Only those selected land and water based components of a historic trail which are on federally owned lands and which meet the national historic trail criteria established in this Act are included as Federal protection components of a national historic trail. The appropriate Secretary may certify other lands as protected segments of an historic trail upon application from State or local governmental agencies or private interests involved if such segments meet the national historic trail criteria established in this Act and such criteria supplementary thereto as the appropriate Secretary may prescribe, and

are administered by such agencies or interests without expense to the United States.

NHTSA

National Historic Trails System Act, P.L. 90-543, 16 USC 1241- 51.

NM

New Mexico.

NPS

National Park Service.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

The principal federal law dealing with historic preservation. It established a national policy of historic preservation, including encouraging preservation on the state and private levels. The act authorized the Secretary of the Interior to maintain a National Register of Historic Places.

National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS)

A system of congressional, Presidential, or other designated areas managed by the BLM, the components of which include National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Trails, National Scenic Trails, the California Desert Conservation Area, and the Headwaters Forest Reserve.

National Natural Landmarks (NNL)

Sites designated by the Secretary of the Interior as containing the best representative examples of geologic features and natural communities composing the nation's natural history. The purpose of the designation is to encourage preservation of such sites through well-informed management and use, and consideration of these sites in public and private land use planning. Designation has no legal effect on landownership, use, or management.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects, significant in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture, established by the Historic Preservation Act of

1966, and maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

National Register potential

Status of a cultural resource, which is deemed qualified for the National Register of Historic Places prior to formal documentation and consultation; managed as if it were actually listed.

NWR

National Wildlife Refuge.

negligible impact

Impact that is small in magnitude and importance and is difficult or impossible to quantify relative to those occurring naturally or due to other actions.

non-point-source pollution

Unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants, pollution comes from many diffuse sources. Pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and even our underground sources of drinking water.

objective

A description of a desired condition for a resource. Objectives can be quantified and measured, and, where possible, have established time frames for achievement.

off-highway vehicle (off-road vehicle; OHV)

Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) any non-amphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat-support vehicle when used in times of national defense emergencies.

open areas and trails

Designated areas and trails where off- road vehicles may be operated, subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards; or an area where all types of vehicle use is permitted at all times, subject to standards.

paleontological resources (fossils)

The physical remains of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations. Paleontological resources are important for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

Paraje

(general). Spanish, ‘place, residence,” but in NM the term has also become a place name, referring usually to a ‘stopping place” or “campground” travelers. Many old settlements originally were parajes, such as Paraje de Belen and Paraje de Bernalillo. Josiah Gregg, in *Commerce of the Prairies* (1844), described the Paraje of Fra Cristobal as “like many others on the route, neither town nor village, but a simple isolated point on the river bank- a mere paraje, or camping ground.” [Julyan]

physiographic province

A region defined by a unified geologic history and a characteristic geologic structure and climate that differs from adjoining regions.

plan

A document that contains a set of comprehensive, long- range decisions concerning the use and management of resources in a specific geographic area.

planning area

A geographical area for which land use and Resource Management Plans are developed and maintained.

planning criteria

The standards, rules, and other factors developed by managers and interdisciplinary teams for their use in forming judgments about decision- making, analysis, and data collection during planning. Planning criteria streamline

and simplify the resource management planning actions.

planning analysis

A process using appropriate resource data and NEPA analysis to provide a basis for decisions in areas not yet covered by a Resource Management Plan.

preplan or project plan

Describes the purpose, location, issues to be resolved, participants’ roles and responsibilities, budget, and schedule.

R&PP

Recreation and Public Purposes.

rangeland

Land used for grazing by livestock and big game animals on which vegetation is dominated by grasses, grass- like plants, forbs, or shrubs.

raptor

Birds of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks, such as hawks, owls, vultures, and eagles.

record of decision

A document signed by a responsible official recording a decision that was preceded by the preparing of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Resource Management Plan (RMP)

A land use plan as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act that establishes, for a given area of land, land- use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple- use, objectives, and actions to be achieved.

right-of-way

A permit or an easement that authorizes the use of public lands for certain specified purposes, commonly for pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, reservoirs, etc.; also, the lands covered by such an easement or permit.

right-of-way corridor

A parcel of land that has been identified by law, Secretarial order, through a land use plan, or by other management decision as being the preferred location for existing and future right- of- way grants, and suitable to accommodate one type of right- of- way or one or more rights- of- way that are similar, identical, or compatible.

riparian area

A form of wetland transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. Riparian areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics that reflect the influence of permanent surface or subsurface water. Typical riparian areas include lands along, adjacent to, or contiguous with perennially and intermittently flowing rivers and streams, glacial potholes, and the shores of lakes and reservoirs with stable water levels. Excluded are ephemeral streams or washes that lack vegetation and depend on free water in the soil.

rock art

Petroglyphs (engraved designs) or pictographs (painted designs).

saleable minerals

Common- variety minerals on public lands, such as sand and gravel, which are used mainly for construction and are disposed of by sales or special permits to local governments.

scenic byways

Highway routes that have roadsides or corridors of special esthetic, cultural, or historical value. An essential part of the highway is its scenic corridor. The corridor may contain outstanding scenic vistas, unusual geologic features, or other natural elements.

scenic quality

The degree of harmony, contrast, and variety within a landscape.

Section 106 compliance

The requirement of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act that any project funded, licensed, permitted, or assisted

by the federal government be reviewed for impacts to significant historic properties, and that the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be allowed to comment on a project.

sediment yield

The amount of sediment produced in a watershed, expressed in tons, acre feet, or cubic yards, of sediment per unit of drainage area per year.

significant

An effect that is analyzed in the context of the proposed action to determine the degree or magnitude of importance of the effect, either beneficial or adverse. The degree of significance can be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

site steward program

A program designed to preserve cultural sites through the use of volunteers, similar to a neighborhood watch program.

SLO

State Land Office.

special status species

Includes proposed species, listed species, and candidate species under the ESA; State- listed species; and BLM State Director- designated sensitive species.

species diversity

The number of, different kinds of, and relative abundance of, species present in a given area.

standard

A description of the physical and biological conditions or degree of function required for healthy, sustainable lands (e.g., land health standards).

Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E)

Any plant or animal species defined under the Endangered Species Act as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range; listings are published in the Federal Register.

TX

Texas

USDA

United States Department of Agriculture.

USFS

United States Forest Service (also listed as USDA Forest Service).

USFWS

United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

visual resources

The visible physical features of a landscape (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that constitute the scenery of an area.

VRM

Visual Resources Management.

water quality

The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

watershed

All lands that are enclosed by a continuous hydrologic drainage divide and lie upslope from a specified point on a stream.

wetlands

Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water often and long enough to support and under normal circumstances do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

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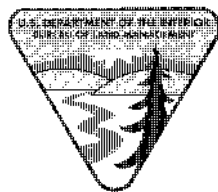
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As the the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.